



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/522,470	03/09/2000	Hiroshi Katakura	000267	3147

38834 7590 02/22/2006

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP
1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW
SUITE 700
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

DO, CHAT C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2193

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/522,470

Applicant(s)

KATAKURA ET AL.

Examiner

Chat C. Do

Art Unit

2193

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 7, 8, 13 and 15-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2, 8, 13, and 15-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 12/22/2005.
2. Claims 1-2, 7-8, 13, and 15-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1-2, 7, 13, and 15-18 are independent claims. In Amendment, claims 3-6, 9-12, and 14 are cancelled. This Office Action is made non-final after a RCE filed 12/22/2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-2, 8, 13, and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Freeman (Re. 34,363).

Re claim 1, Freeman discloses in Figure 2 a logic circuit comprising: a first inversion section (e.g. 21) for inverting a first input signal (e.g. A) a first logic level and outputting an inverted first input signal (e.g. bar(A)); a second inversion section (e.g. 22) for inverting a second input signal (e.g. B) having a logic level always being opposite to the first logic level (e.g. A and B are two variables which can be opposite each other as one is complementary of other), and outputting the inverted signal (e.g. bar(B)); and a transmission section (e.g. transmission lines that connect all signals to 23-26) for

receiving the inverted first input signal and the inverted second input signal and outputting one of the inverted first input signal (e.g. output controls by C2 and $\bar{C2}$) and the inverted second input signal (e.g. output controls by C3 and $\bar{C3}$), wherein the transmission section comprises electrically (e.g. must have current applied in order these logic gates operate in Figure 2) connected transistors (e.g. these OR, AND, XNOR... in Figure 2 must have at least one transistor or in another words, these logic gates are composed of multiple transistors) that respectively receive the inverted first input signal and the inverted second input signal, and the connected transistors output one of the inverted first input signal and the inverted second input signal in response to only an externally controllable selection signal (e.g. Cs and col. 2 lines 1-19) and an inverted signal of the selection signal (e.g. \bar{Cs}).

Re claim 2, Freeman discloses in Figure 2 a logic circuit (e.g. a portion of Figure 2) comprising a first inversion section (e.g. 21) for inverting a first input signal (e.g. A) and outputting an inverted first input signal (e.g. \bar{A}); a second inversion section (e.g. 22) for inverting a second input signal (e.g. B) which is always opposite to the first input signal (e.g. A and B are two variables which can be opposite each other as one is complementary of other), and outputting an inverted second input signal (e.g. \bar{B}); a first outputting section (e.g. output of 25) comprising electrically connected transistors for respectively receiving the inverted first input signal and the inverted second input signal, and the electrically connected transistors one of the inverted first input signal (e.g. \bar{A}) and the inverted second output signal (e.g. \bar{B}) in response to an externally controllable first selection signal (e.g. C1) and an inverted signal of the first selection signal (e.g. \bar{A});

and a second outputting section (e.g. output of 24) comprising electrically (e.g. must have current applied in order these logic gates operate in Figure 2) connected transistors for respectively receiving the inverted first input signal and the inverted second input signal, and the electrically connected transistors (e.g. these OR, AND, XNOR... in Figure 2 must have at least one transistor or in another words, these logic gates are composed of multiple transistors) output one of the inverted first input signal and the inverted second input signal in response to only an externally controllable second selection signal (e.g. col. 2 lines 1-19) and an inverted signal of the second selection signal (e.g. /B and C3).

Re claim 8, Freeman further discloses in Figure 2 comprising a first switching section (e.g. area including transmission lines of A, bar(A) and C2, bar(C2)) provided on an input side of first inversion section (e.g. 21) and performing switching of whether the first input signal is passed (e.g. on) to the first inversion section or blocked (e.g. off) in accordance with an external control signal (e.g. bar(C2)); and a second switching section (e.g. area including transmission lines of B, bar(B) and C3, bar(C3)) provided on an input side of second inversion section (e.g. 22) and performing switching of whether the second input signal is passed (e.g. on) to the second inversion section or blocked (e.g. off) in accordance with the external control signal (e.g. bar(C3)).

Re claim 13, Freeman further discloses in Figure 2 a first inversion section (e.g. 21) for inverting a first input signal (e.g. 21) having one of positive logic and negative logic and outputting an inverted first input signal (e.g. bar(A)), first inversion section (21) including transistor circuits (e.g. col. 4 lines 45-55) each of transistor circuits having a first input signal terminal (e.g. input of 21) for inputting the first input signal (e.g. A), and

an outputting terminal (e.g. input to 23) for outputting the inverted signal (e.g. $\bar{C2}$) based on the logic of the first input signal (e.g. A); a second inversion section (e.g. 22) for inverting a second input signal (e.g. B) always being opposite to the first input signal (e.g. A and B are two variables which can be opposite each other as one is complementary of other), second inversion section (e.g. 22) including transistor circuits each (e.g. col. 4 lines 45-55) of transistor circuits having a second input signal terminal (e.g. input to 22) for inputting the second input signal (e.g. B), and an outputting terminal (e.g. input to 25) for outputting the selection signal (e.g. C3) or the inverted signal (e.g. $\bar{C3}$) based on the logic of the second input signal; and a transmission section (e.g. all the connection bus between inverters to other logic components) for selecting between outputting one of the output of first inversion section (e.g. 21) and the output of second inversion section (e.g. 22) in accordance with a logical value which depends upon an externally controllable selection signal (e.g. C2 and C3) and an inverted signal of the selection signal (e.g. $\bar{C2}$ and $\bar{C3}$), transmission selection including transistor circuits (e.g. these OR, AND, XNOR... in Figure 2 must have at least one transistor or in another words, these logic gates are composed of multiple transistors), each of transistor circuits having a first selection signal terminal for inputting the controllable selection signal and a second selection signal terminal for inputting the inverted signal of the selection signal (e.g. col. 2 lines 1-19).

Re claim 15, it has similar limitations cited in claim 1. Thus, claim 15 is also rejected under the same rationale as cited in the rejection of rejected claim 1.

Re claim 16, it has similar limitations cited in claim 13. Thus, claim 16 is also rejected under the same rationale as cited in the rejection of rejected claim 13. Further Freeman further discloses in Figure 2 these components of circuits are implemented in CMOS (e.g. col. 2 lines 49-55).

Re claim 17, it has similar limitations cited in claim 1. Thus, claim 17 is also rejected under the same rationale as cited in the rejection of rejected claim 1.

Re claim 18, it has same limitations cited in claim 8. Thus, claim 18 is also rejected under the same rationale as cited in the rejection of rejected claim 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 7 is allowed.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 12/22/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

- a. The applicant argues in page 10 for independent claims 1-2, 13, and 15-17 that the cited reference by Freeman does not disclose the variable A and B are not always opposite logic levels and the there is no external controllable selection signal as disclosed in the claimed invention.

The examiner respectfully submits that the rejection above is clearly addressed the variable A and B can be always opposite logic levels since Freeman does not limit the type of signal for A and B. Therefore, A and B can be any type of signal such as one is

Art Unit: 2193

complement of other which yield to always opposite each other by an example of an inverter. In addition, the reference clearly discloses the controllable selection signals are externally supplied (e.g. col. 2 lines 1-19).

b. The applicant argues in page 11 for dependent claim 8 that the pass transistors have nothing to do with whether the input signal A is passed to the inversion section 21 as disclosed in the claimed invention.

The examiner respectfully submits that the pass transistors for inverter 21 and 22 can be placed in front without any change of function which is dynamically claimed by Freeman.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chat C. Do whose telephone number is (571) 272-3721. The examiner can normally be reached on M => F from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chaki Kakali can be reached on (571) 272-3719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2193

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chat C. Do
Examiner
Art Unit 2193

February 17, 2006

~~KAKALI~~
~~SUPERVISORY PATENT~~
~~TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100~~

Chat C. Do
KAKALI CHAKI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100